

Liber K. County, and took the Post with me, whereby I might the readier give your Excellency Account of the Certainty of Affairs with them, & returned again to my house last Night, which is as followeth (Viz^t) On Saturday the 16th Captⁿ Maxwell took eight men with him, and went to Thomas Thurstons where he expected to find that Party of Indians mentioned in the inclosed from him to me, which came to my hand in their County, but when he came there, found the Indians had hired a Guide for One good Beaver Skin to convey them about sixteen Miles to One M^r Jacob Lootons a Baltimore County Iustice, where Captain Maxwell and his Party followed them on Sunday Morning, and there they found about seventy two Indian Men, and a hundred Women and Children, who had 8 Guns, and all the rest of their men well furnished with Bows and Arrows at the said Lootons house, and there they found him in his Store, and full of Indians a dealing with him for Goods, having great Store of Indian Trade therein, which is said to belong to Col Wells and Samuel Groome and that he trades under them, but I find by Captain Maxwell and some of his Men, that Looton and his Wife gave the English a very unwelcome reception for disturbing their Trade on their Market day as Looton called it: Now S^r if these be Lootons friends, and he so well knows them (as Captⁿ Maxwell declares in his Letter) 'tis my Opinion that he is the fittest Man to render your Excellency a true Account of their qualifications, which I hope Your Excellency will call him to Account for his Misdemeanor, and that he make appear what Indians they are, 'tis believed he never saw these Indians before, and for the sweet profits such traders reap by them, who value not the spoil of their Neighbours, if they get the Gains; Sir, One Thomas Iones of that

p. 29 County was with Captain Maxwell, and speaks something of most Indian Tongues, & of some Nations as well as the Indians themselves, but could understand very little of these, nor of what Nation they are, but believes them to be a mixt villainous sort of People that rambles up and down to seek who they can devour, and believes they was never at Lootons house before, he living not many miles from him, Looton has bought abundance of them as reported, Jones saw him buy One Beaver Skin for thirty green Apples, and One for thirty Ears and Nubbins of Corn; Sir, These Indians belong to the Frenchman, that I hope is got safe down, who is much enquired after by them, and hope he has made further known of them to your Excellency before this Time, Captain Maxwell tells me that he did see in One of their hands such a Stick as One of the Two was brought to your Excellency with such Marks upon it, and feathers tyed to the End, having told